GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2419
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2016
Sexual Harassment of Domestic Workers
Mahajan Smt. Poonam

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the harassment/sexual abuse of the domestic workers by the employers has increased in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the number of such cases reported during the said period, State/UT-wise;
(c) whether the Government proposes to enact a centralised legislation in this regard and if so the details thereof; and
(d) the other corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government to protect the interests of domestic workers/domestic helps in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)
(a) & (b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain, the segregated data relating to harassment/sexual abuse of the domestic workers by the employers in the country.
(c) & (d) The Ministry of Labour & Employment have informed that the domestic work falls within the purview of States' sphere. Hence, it is primarily responsibility of the State/UT Governments to take necessary action for protecting people including the domestic workers in the States/UTs.
However, the Central Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers" Social Security Act, 2008 for social security of unorganised workers which includes domestic workers also. Furthr,the National Policy for Domestic Workers is under consideration of the Government of India.
Apart from the above, the Ministry of Women And Child Development has enacted the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, which includes domestic workers also within its ambit.
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